

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

The following is a copy of Applicant's claims that identifies language being added with underlining ("____") and language being deleted with strikethrough ("——"), as is applicable:

1. (Currently Amended) A medical bur for cutting bone, said medical bur comprising:

a handle configured to be gripped by a user;

a shaft extending from said handle having a terminal end; and

a bur head attached to ~~a distal end of~~ said shaft, said bur head having a cutting portion and a stop portion such that a position of said stop portion along said shaft is fixed with respect to said cutting portion;

said cutting portion being located between said handle and said stop portion, said cutting portion having a longitudinal axis and exhibiting symmetry thereabout, said longitudinal axis being aligned with a longitudinal axis of said shaft;

said stop portion being located at said terminal end of said shaft; spaced from said cutting portion along said shaft to permit independent movement of said cutting portion about said longitudinal axis of said shaft with respect to said stop portion, said stop portion having a longitudinal axis and exhibiting symmetry thereabout, the stop portion covering the terminal end of said shaft;

wherein said cutting portion of said bur head is adapted to rotate under power and said stop portion of said bur head is adapted to move independently with

respect to said cutting portion such that said cutting portion is rotatable to cut through bone while said stop portion tends to prevent contact of said cutting portion with soft tissue located adjacent the bone being cut.

2. (Original) The medical bur of claim 1, wherein said stop portion is arranged and configured to rotate freely.

3. – 4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The medical bur of claim 1, wherein:
said cutting portion extends along said shaft and terminates at a distal edge;
said stop portion terminates at a proximal edge located adjacent said distal edge of said cutting portion; and
said distal edge of said cutting portion corresponds in size and shape to said proximal edge of said stop portion.

6. (Previously Presented) The medical bur of claim 1, wherein said bur head is spherical.

7. (Previously Presented) The medical bur of claim 1, wherein said stop portion is shaped as a portion of a sphere.